

## THE POSSESSION

By Lorraine Viade, Psy.D.



*The Possession* is a scary movie because it addresses the idea that evil can exist as an entity separate from us. Why film producers find stories based on actual events involving pre-teen girls is beyond me. But 12-year-old girls have been at risk for these phenomena since *Exorcist* which came out the year I turned 12. This time, a little girl opens a box fit for Pandora and what occurs is more emotionally disturbing than frightening.

Demons are not to be taken lightly. This time, it is a devout Jewish man who takes on the evil for the sake of the innocent. Exorcism is not a ritual exclusive to the Catholic religion, and this film gives another perspective into the mechanics of how a dangerous spirit is able to take over the mind, body and soul of another.

Whether or not you believe in the existence of demons, you can't help but identify with a child who is struggling with being caught up in the emotions of divorced parents, having to deal with her mom's new boyfriend, and being and feeling different from her sibling. That in and of itself would be enough of a trauma to deal with, but having to go through a demon possession is a whole other matter.

The most salient thing about this, however, is in who saves the girl and how that all plays out. I won't reveal anything, especially the ending, but I will say that *The Possession* is a well-acted movie that is worth seeing. Enjoy.

I give *The Possession* four couches.

